

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01
/059 W

-----241137Z 020279 /12

R 211612Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6958
INFO COMICEDEFOR
CINCLANT
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM 1271
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 0109

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, IC
SUBJECT: PP AND COALITION: WEATHERING STORM DESPITE CONTINUING
ATTACKS

REF: (A) REYKJAVIK 0086 (DTG 181443 JAN 77); (B) REYKJAVIK 0098
(DTG 191647Z JAN 77)

1. LATEST CHARGES OF PROGRESSIVE PARTY TRANSGRESSIONS
AND RESULTING DEMANDS FOR RESIGNATION OF PP MINISTERS
(REFTELS) CONTINUE TO REVERBERATE HERE, ALTHOUGH INITIAL
IMPACT SEEMS TO HAVE FADED WITHOUT DRASTIC CONSEQUENCES.

2. BELEAGUERED PROGRESSIVES RECEIVED SOMTHING OF
SHOT IN ARM FROM THEIR INDEPENDENCE PARTY COALITION
PARTNERS WHEN AUTHORITATIVE IP NEWSPAPER MORGUNBLADID
MADE CLEAR IN JANUARY 20 EDITORIAL THAT IP INTENDED TO
KEEP COALITION TOGETHER DESPITE GROWING CONCERN WITHIN
PARTY OVER IMPLICATIONS OF CONTINUED ASSOCIATION
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WITH PP. MORGUNBLAEID EDITORIAL, WHICH OCCUPIED FULL
PAGE, MADE NO ATTEMPT TO ABSOLVE ACCUSED PROGRESSIVES
("PP MINISTERS WILL ANSWER FOR THEMSELVES," IT SAID),
BUT RATHER URGED AVOIDANCE OF HYSTERIA AND PREJUDGEMENT.
PAPER NOTED THAT VOTERS WOULD HAVE FINAL SAY ON PER-
FORMANCE OF THIS GOVERNMENT AND ITS OFFICIALS. IN
MEANTIME, COALITION HAD ACHIEVED RECORD OF SIGNIFICATN

ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN BOTH FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC AFFAIRS
THEREBY EARNING SUPPORT NECESSARY FOR COMPLETING ITS
TASKS.

3. MORGUNBLADID EDITORIAL WAS CLEARLY APPEAL IN BE-
HALF OF GOVERNMENT RATHER THAN PP. SIGNIFICANTLY, IT
AVOIDED ANY MENTION OF VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN PP MINI-
STERS OF SORT ATTRIBUTED TO PRIMEMIN HALLGRIMSSON IN
PP PRESS DAY BEFORE (REF B). NONETHELESS, IT DOES
APPEAR THAT ANY GROUNDSWELL OF IP DISTASTE FOR ITS
JUNIOR PARTNER HAS BEEN KEPT IN CHECK AND THAT
COALITION FEELS IT CAN RIDE OUT CURRENT STORM.

4. MEANWHILE, STILL MORE EVIDENCE THAT IP AS WHOLE
IS FAR FROM CONTENT OVER CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP WITH
PROGRESSIVES EMERGED TODAY IN FORM OF DECLARATION
FROM REYKJAVIK YOUNG IP ORGANIZATION, STATEMENT
"STRONGLY DENOUNCES" RECENT INTERFERENCE OF FONMIN
AND JUSTICEMIN IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROCESS AND URGES
THAT THEY EITHER BE REMOVED AT ONCE OR THAT
COALITION BE DISSOLVED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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